

# The GARZETTE

January 2001

Volume 11, Issue 1



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January, 2001

December 2000 has come and gone and I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If this was the real Y2K, we made it through. Let's look forward to the year 2001 with great expectations to continue the GARS tradition as a great club. As we start this new year, the club is looking to elect new officers to "guide the ship". We must continue to grow our club and the ranks of amateur radio. If you'd like to help the club, then stand up and be counted. The January meeting will give you a

chance to run for a club office, with the election to be held at the February meeting. The Executive Committee will meet on January 15th at 1900 at the Café Au Lait. All members are invited. Every time we show what we can do, we may be lighting that "amateur radio" spark in someone and you never know what



that person may eventually do. Maybe that individual will pursue a career in electronics or he or she may become the next Tesla, Bell, or Marconi. Wouldn't it be great to see the first person set foot on Mars and they are a ham to boot?

The annual Tech Fest will soon be upon us. If you'd like to participate, contact AD4PZ or N1TOQ for details. It's fun and I look forward to seeing each of you there. Don't forget the Chili cook-off! The new year ushers in the winds of change. I challenge each of you to commit to trying a new aspect of our hobby.

*(Continued on page 10)*



**Who's this guy and why is he so famous?  
(It's Kevin Berry, KF4RMA, father of the Tech Fest.)**

See Tech Fest Articles, pages 3 & 9

## THE GARZETTE

*The GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to N1TOQ@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

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**Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.**

For any additional information contact:  
Newsletter Editor:  
Barry Zoll, N1TOQ  
(770)277-5175  
N1TOQ@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor



## THE GARZETTE

### Zoll Named Garzette Editor

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ, has been named Garzette Editor succeeding Rick Patchin, KD4RFK. "I am honored to take over the editorship of this important publication and I'd like to thank Rick for the fine job that he's done".

Barry would like to remind everyone that articles of any type are welcomed in the Garzette and submitting them is simple. Choose one of the following submission methods:

- Email: N1TOQ@arrl.net
- Fax: 678-393-2390
- US Mail: The Garzette c/o 707 Bedrock Run Lawrenceville, GA 30043

**...or, bring the articles to our monthly meetings!!**

### December Meeting Notes

There was no meeting held in December due to the Christmas Party.

Look for the January Meeting notes in the February issue of the

***Garzette.***

### GARS Favorite Recipes

The Christmas party this year was another great GARS event. The fellowship, the laughter, the Kenwood hats..it was a night to remember. As with every GARS gathering, the food took center stage and Johnny, W4WKP was pleased that he did not have to eat any potato salad. The home cooked food was outstanding so why not share your favorite recipe with all of us? Submit your dish d'jour to the editor at N1TOQ@arrl.net today!

## Tech Fest 2001

The GARS Tech Fest 2001 will be held on January 27, 2001 at the Central Baptist Church located on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville, from 11 AM until 3 PM. So what is the Tech Fest?

The Tech Fest is an event where hams from near and far gather to share their expertise and love of the hobby. There are displays from QRP, Computer Programming your radio, antenna construction, 12 volt theory, ARES, ARRL, and more. We will have a fully functioning HF Station and our GARS Chili Cook-Off.

There is no admission charge and all we ask is that you bring a side dish, dessert, corn bread, or your best chili. For more information, call Barry at 678-339-2605.

**FOR SALE:** Available in late January or early February 2001 my hamshack in Lawrenceville, GA with 72ft motorized free standing crank up tower, 4 ele quad antenna. Hamshack is 9 years old with large back yard, and of course, the house comes with it. Price and inspection by appointment, or price by phone or email. Bill, kn4n@aol.com or 770-513-2566

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♦♦♦

## CW MANIA

*By William Carter, KG4FXG*

As you have probably figured out by now I really like the CW nets. Well, it even gets better. Up to this point I have talked about checking into a slow net.

It was the usual evening in the shack, and I was preparing to tune-up for the Kentucky Slow Net. The clock say 10:00 PM and no net. Could the clock be wrong? Of course not, it's an MFJ it's never wrong. Worried I call Rick, CQ CQ AE4NW de KG4FXG K. Rick answers and says you call the net.

There aren't words to describe the excitement and fear one feels this time. I have not finished my Net Control Training yet. I prepare to send the preamble on my Bencher. There is goes... (QST QST KSN KSN The Kentucky Slow Speed Net) and so on. My fingers are numb, I can't feel my hand but I can still send code.

I haven't been this nervous since I signed up for a Code Buddy through the FISTS Program. I received an e-mail from my new Code Buddy early in the morning and had a time and frequency to meet. I worried my self sick the whole day about that qso. I even tried to write out qso on paper ahead of time but it never went that way because my Code buddy didn't have the script and wouldn't stick to it.

The preamble ends and the big moment is here, the part where I call for check-ins. (KSN KSN QNI K) At this point I am getting relaxed but the excitement is still building. WOW, to actually call for check-ins. I wish I could describe the feeling for you. Have you ever sat in the teacher's desk at school and pretended you were the teacher? How about sitting in the judge's chair in a courtroom or behind the steering wheel of Gordon's van. Doesn't it make you feel important?

After I called (KSN KSN QNI K) I heard a station send the letter (N). So I sent (N) back and they responded with (de WB5NKC ge Bill qru k). The QNI is a call for net stations to report in. You do this by first sending one letter of your suffix. I send back what I heard and the station checked in saying good evening Bill no traffic.

Now the hard part comes in running a CW net. At this point all I have sent is the letter "N". And it is my turn to send again. First, the station checking in only sends their call sign. They know me because in the preamble I gave my name and call. This is not like a 2 meter net. At this point I am wishing it was because I need to know the station's name that just checked in. It is my turn to send and I can't take all day looking up the call in the net Roster to find the name. Lucky for me I know it is Arley.

The biggest fear I have in running a CW net is knowing the name associated with the call. After each station checks in it is my turn to send something to him or her. Again, its not like 2 meter nets that have 4 or 5 in a row check in before net control acknowledges them. I have much respect and admiration for those who run the 2 meter nets. That is not easy either. A small side note, the fast CW nets will have several stations check-in and then recognize them.

**(Continued on page 5)**

## CW MANIA

(Continued from page 4)

I send the following back to Arley, (WB5NKC ge Arley pse as next k). What I said was, good evening Arley please wait and asked the next station to check in.

There is more to running a CW net. Not only do you have to check them in, but also you have to check them out. All this to run the net and there has not been any traffic yet. That's another story. Lets see if I can check out all the stations who checked in. You see, by now I have been calling several times for check ins by sending (KSN KSN QNI K).

Well, the nerves start acting up again. So here it goes, I call Arley again by sending WB5NKC. Arley responds by sending the letter "C". Then I respond with the following line of text, (tu Arley fer qni nw qnx 73 de KG4FXG). Basically I said thanks for checking in now you are excused from the net 73 this is KG4FXG. I would do the same for the rest of the stations who checked in tonight.

After the final station is checked out I make one last call for check-ins and then close the net. I sent something like this, (Last Call for qni de KG4FXG K). Then I send, (NIL KSN NW QNF 73 de SK KG4FXG CL). This basically says nothing heard KSN no longer controlled, net is free, 73 end of contact KG4FXG closing station.

I hope this gave you a little glimpse into what happens on a slow net with no traffic and the Net control Station is extremely nervous. I have since called the net on other occasions and feel very comfortable with it. I guess it just takes practice.

## Hot Frequencies

*By Barry Zoll, N1TOQ*

Most of the radio equipment that we own can do lots of things for us besides allowing us to communicate with each other. There is a whole world out there from Public Safety, business, maritime, or a new repeater you've discovered. There are lots of ways we can get these frequencies but in many cases, the information is incorrect by the time it's printed.

I am pleased to announce the newest monthly article for the Garzette entitled "Hot Frequencies". We will feature new frequencies each month that will give you access to the rest of the communications world. Please send your list of favorites to the editor at [N1TOQ@arrl.net](mailto:N1TOQ@arrl.net).

To start the article off, I have some favorites that I'm sure you'll find interesting. They are:

151.525      Mall of Georgia Security  
154.845      Cumming, GA Police

Both of these frequencies are very busy and I've found the Mall of Georgia to be entertaining, particularly during the weekend.

## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

#### **Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers**

Old Hickory House

5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody  
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.  
Talk In 145.410(-)

### **Kennehoochee ARC**

First United Methodist Church in Marietta  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

#### **Atlanta Radio Club**

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

### **N.E. Georgia ARC**

Jefferson Civic Center  
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from  
Jefferson  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)

### **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

Shoney's Restaurant  
Holcomb Bridge Road at grimes Bridge Road  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

### Second Thursday

#### **Alford Memorial Radio Club**

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road  
Lilburn  
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

#### **East Atlanta LAN**

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
Dunwoody  
Meeting is at 10:00 AM  
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

### Third THURSDAY



#### **Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**

Central Baptist Church  
Gwinnett Drive  
Lawrenceville

Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.  
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)   
❖❖❖

## Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

**GARS** publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

### First Sunday

WCARS VEC

2:00 PM

(Except July and September)

Johnson High School

3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainsville  
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

### First Saturday

9:00AM

Clayton County Emergency  
Management Building

7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro  
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

### Second Tuesday

7:00PM

Walton EMC

3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770)498-7759

### Second Saturday

CA VEC

8:30 AM

Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Hal Martin, KI4RD  
(770)978-9160

### Third Saturday

CA VEC

9:00AM

Marietta First United Methodist Church

Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave

Marietta

Larry Huff, WA4CQZ

(770)955-3171

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7:00 PM

United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

Jessie Clower, KB4WFK

(770)942-6466.

### Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC

7:00 PM

St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road

Lilburn

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## GARS Communication System

### 6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz  
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site  
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### 2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site  
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### 70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

*Under construction*  
Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

### APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
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❖❖❖

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*Giving Amateur Radio Spirit!*



## Upcoming Events

*Committee Chairs:*

*Let's fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!*



### **January 2001**

15th Executive committee  
18th GARS Club Meeting  
27th Tech Fest

### **February 2001**

Executive committee  
**15th** GARS Club Meeting

### **March 2001**

Executive committee  
22nd GARS Club Meeting

### **April 2001**

Executive committee  
19th GARS Club Meeting

### **May 2001**

Executive committee  
**17th** GARS Club Meeting

Meeting Time  
&  
Location

### **June 2001**

Executive committee  
**21st** GARS Club Meeting  
**29th-30th** FIELD DAY

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM  
Central Baptist Church,  
Gwinnett Drive,  
Lawrenceville

### **July 2001**

Executive committee  
**19th** GARS Club Meeting

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82.5 PL Tone

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**NEW!**

**FT-50RD**

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- Alpha numeric display
- Wide Band receive
- Battery Saver
- 112 Memories
- Mil-Spec
- HiSpeed scanning

**NEW!**



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**FT-847**

Ultimate Base Station, HF, VHF, UHF

- 100W HF/6M, 50W 2M/430 MHz
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- 1200/9600 Baud Packet Ready

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- 9600 Baud Compatible • Alpha Numeric Display

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## The President's Pen

Continued from page 1

Some amateur's believe that we are a service and not a hobby, but for many of us, it is both. I enjoy tinkering with the radio equipment as much as serving ARES or participating in the dog shows.

I'll have one more editorial before my term is up and for my final article as President, I'll reflect on the past two years. I've enjoyed serving as your President and will look forward to serving again maybe in 10 years or so.

I look forward to seeing you at the Pixie Event, Club Meeting, and Tech Fest.

73 de KA4KKF, David.

## Tech Fest is Coming

- **When ? January 27, 2001, 11 AM - 3PM**
- **Where? Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville.**
- **What should I bring? If you'd like to show us your best Chili, there is a Chili Cook-Off at the event. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert. The club will provide burgers, dogs, and soft drinks.**
- **Where can I get more information?**
  - **GARS Web Site**
  - **N1TOQ@arrl.net**

**See you there!!!**